

**PSYCHOLOGY 376
CHILD DEVELOPMENT – SPRING 2009**

Instructor: Jane Mendle, Ph.D.

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Office Hours: Wednesday 1 – 2, Thursday 9 – 10, or by appointment

Note: You **MUST** e-mail two hours in advance if you intend to come to office hours on Wednesday and by 10 pm Wed. night if you intend to come Thursday morning

Teaching Assistant: Alice Graham, M.S.

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Office Hours: by appointment

Lecture Place and Time:

Fenton Hall, Tuesday/Thursday 4:00-5:20pm

This course provides an introductory overview to the theories, methods, and phenomena of developmental psychology, from birth through adolescence. This includes biological, cognitive, social and emotional domains of change. The course approach is grounded in scientific principles, with an emphasis on recent research findings, analytic thinking, and a critical evaluation of findings.

Course Website:

You must have an email address and be registered for this course in order to log on to Blackboard. If you do not have an email address, go to the Information Technology Center (ITC) on the second floor in the Knight Library. ITC will also help you if you are having difficulty with Blackboard. *Note:* If you are emailing us about the course, please include the words “PSY 376” in the subject line, to help ensure we get your email.

Textbook:

Cole, M., Cole, S., & Lightfoot, C. *The development of children* (5th Ed.) New York, NY: Worth Publishers. *Note:* 2 copies will be on reserve in the Knight Library.

Lectures and Readings:

Lectures and reading will provide a broad factual knowledge base of psychological developmental. Although the lectures are coordinated with the textbook readings, they will sometimes address concepts independent of each other. **Some of the material will be covered in both readings and lecture, but some of the material in the reading will not be discussed in class and new material not covered in the reading will be presented during class time.** Carefully doing the reading before class will make it easier for you to get the most out of lecture. For exams, students are responsible both for information in the assigned reading as well as lectures. Content of the syllabi may be subject to change over the course of the term.

Exams:

There will be three, multiple choice exams. Each exam contributes 100 points towards your course grade. Each exam will test material from approximately one-third of the course (see schedule below). There will also be a final exam, which will be cumulative, and contribute 150 points toward your final grade.

Make-Ups:

There are no make-ups allowed in this class. Please review the dates for exams now and plan vacations, travel, and other concerns accordingly.

Academic Honesty:

Every student in this course is expected to behave according to the highest standards of integrity. All work submitted in this course must be your own. If students are discovered cheating on exams, the university will be notified and appropriate action taken.

Class Manners:

Class time is for class. We have a limited amount of time and a lot of material. Always turn off your cell phones and internet connections before coming to class. Using the internet, instant messaging, chatting with friends, etc. during class is forbidden.

Important Dates:

4/21/09	Exam 1
5/7 /09	Exam 2
6/4/09	Exam 3
6/10/09	Final exam

Final Grades:

Final grades will be based on the total number of points earned from the following:

Exam 1	100 points
Exam 2	100 points
Exam 3	100 points
Final Exam	150 points

Total	450 points
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The total number of possible points earned through this course is 450. If your total is

- 90-100% of the total number of points, your grade will be an A
- 80-89% of the total number of points, your grade will be a B
- 70-79% of the total number of points, your grade will be a C
- 60-69% of the total number of points, your grade will be a D
- Less than 60% of the total number of points, your grade will be an F

Within each letter grade, a plus will be assigned to scores within the top 2% and a minus will be assigned to scores within the bottom 2%. If necessary, a curve will be calculated according by

averaging the two highest scores in the class. This value will serve as the total number of points for calculating grades.

Accommodations:

You are strongly encouraged to contact Disability Services (164 Oregon Hall; 346-1155) if you have a non-documented condition that creates difficulty for you as a student. If one of the following applies to you, please see the professor or teaching assistant as soon as possible to make adjustments:

- Documented learning or medical disability
- Non-documented need for adjustments to help you learn
- Member of a sports team that travels this quarter
- Non-native speaker of English

With advanced planning, adjustments are relatively straightforward. Adjustments at the last minute can be problematic and sometimes are not possible.

OUTLINE OF LECTURE TOPICS

3/31/09	Introduction to Child Development and Course Overview <i>Reading: Chapter 1</i> (can be done after class if you don't have a chance to do it before)
4/02/09	Prenatal Development and Early Infancy <i>Reading: Chapter 3</i> (pp. 70-82), <i>Chapter 4</i> (pp. 112-117, 120-130, 136-142, 157-160)
4/07/09	Late Infancy: Attachment and Sense of Self <i>Reading: Chapter 5</i> (pp. 165-174, 195-201) <i>Chapter 6</i>
4/9/09	Piaget <i>Reading: pp. 150-153, 175-187, 212-218, 322-333, 458-461, 622-626</i>
4/14/09	Genes and the Environment <i>Reading: Chapter 2</i> (pp.43-61)
4/16/09	Early Experience, Deprivation, and Resilience <i>Reading: Chapter 7</i>
4/21/09	Exam 1 Content: lectures and readings assigned from 3/31 – 4/16
4/23/09	Language Acquisition <i>Reading: Chapter 8</i>
4/28/09	Early Childhood: Cognitive Development <i>Reading: Chapter 9</i>

4/30/09	Early Childhood: Social Development <i>Reading: Chapter 10</i>
5/5/09	Early Childhood: Family, Child Care, Divorce <i>Reading: Chapter 11</i>
5/7/09	Exam 2 Content lectures and readings from 4/23 – 5/5
5/12/09	Middle Childhood: Cognitive Development and Culture, Media <i>Reading: Chapter 12</i>
5/14/09	The Commercialization of Childhood
5/19/09	Middle Childhood: Schooling <i>Reading: Chapter 13</i>
5/21/09	Middle Childhood: Social Development <i>Reading: Chapter 14</i>
5/26/09	Adolescence: History, Puberty, and Sexuality <i>Reading: Chapter 15</i>
5/28/09	Adolescence: Moral and Social Development <i>Reading: Chapter 16</i>
6/2/09	Adolescence: Identity; course-wrap up and exam review
6/4/09	Exam 3